UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/120
S/1994/421
12 April 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 26 of the preliminary list*
COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN MILITARY FORCES FROM THE TERRITORIES OF THE BALTIC STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 11 April 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the text of a statement dated 7 April 1994, issued by the Government of the Republic of Estonia in connection with the negotiations between Estonia and the Russian Federation.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 26 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst JAAKSON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued at Tallinn on 7 April 1994 by the Government of Estonia

In the latest round of negotiations between Estonia and the Russian Federation, the Russian side has once again attached conditions to the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia by the 31 August deadline that the two sides had already agreed to, and even called into question that deadline, which enjoys the support of the international community. Estonia cannot agree with these new conditions but remains willing to negotiate in good faith to overcome all difficulties. Estonia also regards Mr. Yeltsin's most unusual decree of 5 April on the creation of military bases, not only in the Commonwealth of Independent States but also in Latvia, as a violation of both past Russian commitments and numerous international agreements and principles.

Therefore, we have instructed that the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our representatives abroad do everything possible to remind the Russian Federation to honour its international obligations to withdraw its troops from Estonia and Latvia unconditionally by 31 August 1994, in a speedy and orderly manner, as set out in numerous international documents.

We cannot exclude the possibility that at least some political circles in Moscow intend to exploit the present situation for provocations in Estonia and Latvia. Such provocations will fail. Estonia will stay united and will withstand the Russian pressure. The Estonian people will continue to work hard to give additional content to the restoration of Estonian independence and to pursue their goal of reintegrating Estonia into Europe.

(Signed) Lennart MERI
President

(Signed) Ülo NUGIS
Speaker of the Parliament

(Signed) Mart LAAR
Prime Minister